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10 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Security Analysis Group

SUBJECT : HALL, Loran Eugene
#348 627
201-258411

1. On 9 September 1975, Ruth S. TAYLOR, DDO/LA/COG/CI, contacted the writer regarding the 201 file concerning Loran Eugene HALL, temporarily held by the writer. TAYLOR advised that DDO/DCD was making inquiry concerning Agency involvement with HALL. TAYLOR reviewed the 201 and the writer advised TAYLOR that she could alert DCD that the Office of Security, specifically the writer, has a file on HALL and could possibly assist DCD.

2. On 10 September 1975, (Sean RYAN)⁰³ DCD/OSG, contacted the writer, advising that the FBI in Los Angeles had contacted the DCD in Los Angeles for information concerning any Agency affiliation with HALL. Apparently, HALL had contacted the FBI in Los Angeles, and is to be interviewed by them on 10 September 1975, on an allegation made by HALL that he was a "gun-runner" for the Agency in the early 1960's. (RYAN)⁰³ was completely unfamiliar with HALL's background, and a short briefing was provided by the writer. DCD was alerted to their prior interest in HALL, the only known Agency connection, when he was of interest for debriefing relative to Cuban matters. DCD was further alerted to their prior interest in debriefings of a close associate of HALL in the early 1960's, Gerald Patrick HEMMING and the "Intercontinental Penetration Force." (RYAN)⁰³ was also advised that HEMMING, in the early 1960's, was closely connected with Frank Anthony STURGIS, aka: Frank FIORINI, who has recently made unfounded claims of Agency involvement, specifically in connection with STURGIS' arrest as one of the Watergate burglars.

3. Loran Eugene HALL was one of the principals of New Orleans District Attorney James GARRISON's investigation of the assassination of President John F. KENNEDY. GARRISON placed HALL in Dallas, Texas, at the time of the Kennedy assassination, claiming also that HALL was one of the individuals

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who visited Sylvia ODIO prior to the assassination soliciting funds for anti-Castro activities. ODIO has long claimed that one of the individuals with HALL was Lee Harvey OSWALD. The Warren Commission chose to discount ODIO's testimony. But her testimony has been one of the major basis of contention given by Warren Commission critics.

4. The only known Agency interest in HALL is the 1959 DCD debriefing interest. However, the file is replete with information collected during the GARRISON investigation inasmuch as GARRISON also claimed extensively that the Agency was behind the assassination.

5. It is believed that the Agency could benefit greatly from an in-depth FBI interview of HALL, with possible inroads being made clarifying Frank STURGIS' false claims of Agency employment. It is recommended that through informal FBI liaison, the FBI be advised of Agency interest in any information that can be obtained from HALL.

Jerry G. Brown
Deputy Chief
Security Analysis Group

JGB:hjd